

Mural Four: Our City Today

Materials

Butcher/mural paper

Old magazines or other sources for pictures

Scissors

Tape

Black or brown marker

A Change in Culture journal page (Figure Z)

Journals

Pre-Planning

Cut a 2' X 4' (approximately) piece of butcher paper and display it in the classroom so that all the students can see it and reach it.

Gather used magazines or supplies for students to create their own drawings.

Prepare copies of the A Change in Culture journal page

When mission and rancho people brought their culture into Alta California they changed the land forever by raising food crops and cattle. This ultimately allowed for greater populations to live here. Through the years, the culture and land have changed dramatically. The intimate knowledge of the natural environment by the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva has disappeared. Because of this we are now faced with major environmental problems that affect the health of the people and the land.

This last mural uses the modern-day versions of the last three murals' pictures to create "*Our City*" and explore with the students what has changed, what has remained the same and what we can learn from the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva view and use of the land, as well as the Spanish/Mexican view.

Anticipation

◆ Ask the students:

What do you remember about our mural story of the Native American village?

What do you remember about our mural story of the Spanish mission?

What do you remember about our mural story of the rancho?

Give me an example of the Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva) or Spanish/Mexican culture that changed through time?

How did the land change through time?

◆ Explain to the students that this area that we live in was the home of the Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva). The land was changed, and the culture of the people changed. We are now going to create one more mural. This mural will represent our culture and land today.

◆ Place the large sheet of mural paper on the wall.

Procedure

Part I

1. Have each student recall the different pictures that they contributed to the Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva), Spanish Mission, and Rancho murals.
2. Using what they wrote in their journals, have each student pick a modern-day representation of the three different pictures they contributed to the murals and wrote about in their journals (*Examples: oak tree from the Chumash mural—an oak tree; grain fields from the mission mural—supermarket; and hacienda from the rancho mural—house or apartment.*) There are no right or wrong answers. These should be their own interpretations.
3. Invite students to either find a picture in a used magazine or draw one that represents their modern-day item. (This might be a good homework assignment.)
4. Once the students have their pictures, create a modern-day mural. Read aloud the headings below and have students place their representations onto the mural. More than one student will be coming up at a time.

1. *Land. The teacher draws a line.*

12. *Place for horses*

2. *Water*

13. *Places to play*

3. *Trees*

14. *Games*

4. *Living structures*

15. *Toolmaking areas/Workshops*

5. *Living structure of the leader*

16. *Basketry*

6. *Food storage and growing*

17. *Weaving*

7. *Place of worship*

18. *Embroidery*

8. *Religious symbol*

19. *Food & Food Preparation*

9. *Cemetery*

20. *Musical instruments*

10. *Sweathouse*

21. *Transportation*

11. *Soldiers' quarters*

22. *People*

Post-Visit Activities Mural Four: Our City Today

Part II

1. Ask the students the following questions and discuss their answers.

a. *Looking at the different murals, what from the different cultures has remained the same?* (Oak trees, agriculture, churches, cemeteries, places to play, etc.)

b. *Looking at the different murals, which of the different cultures changed the most?* (Chumash or Gabrielino/Tongva people and their culture.)

c. *How did the Native Americans view the land and its use?* (They had an intimate knowledge of the land and a respect for the land. They used the resources that were here. Their spiritual views were directly linked to the land.)

d. *How did the missionaries and rancheros view the land and its use?* (The land was to be subdued and manipulated. It was used to grow their crops and raise their cattle that they brought with them.)

e. *How did the missionaries view and use the Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva)?* (The missionaries viewed the Chumash or Gabrielino/Tongva as souls who needed to be saved, as a work force, as Spanish subjects-as children to be taught and as potential Spanish citizens.)

f. *How did the rancheros view and use the Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva)?* (The rancheros viewed the Chumash or Gabrielino/Tongva as much-needed labor to work their ranchos.)

g. *Are there Chumash (Gabrielino/Tongva) living today?* (Yes! Descendants of the Native Americans who lived in villages long ago are living today and keep the culture alive.)

h. *How did the intimate knowledge of the land by the Native Americans disappear as the missions and ranchos continued?* (The intimate knowledge and spiritual relationship with the land disappeared as the missions and ranchos continued. The land was exploited more, non-native plants took over, and land was viewed as something to own and manipulate.)

i. *Due to the current lack of understanding about the land, what environmental problems are we faced with today?* (Poor land use, overpopulation and over development often caused by our lack of understanding, are responsible for air, land and water pollution as well as a loss of habitat. This in turn causes a reduction in biological diversity due to the loss of native species.)

j. *What can we learn from the Native Americans use of the land?* (Respect the land, take care of the land, and use our natural resources wisely.)

2. Pass out the *A Change in Culture* journal pages.

3. Have students write their answers to the questions. (You may not want to have the students try to answer all these questions now.)

A Change in Culture

Figure 2

1. Looking at the different murals, what from the different cultures has remained the same?

2. Looking at the different murals, which of the different cultures changed the most?

3. How did the Native Americans view the land and its use?

4. How did the missionaries and rancheros view the land and its use?

5. How did the missionaries view and use the Chumash or Gabrielino/Tongva?

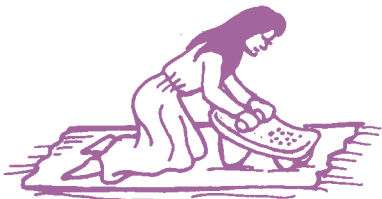
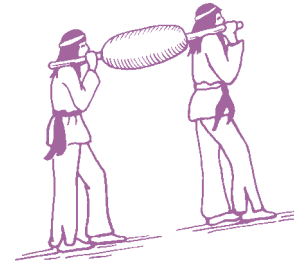


Figure Z–

Continued

6. How did the rancheros view and use the Chumash or Gabrielino/Tongva?



7. Are there Native Americans living today?

8. How did the intimate knowledge of the land by the Chumash and Gabrielino/Tongva disappear as the missions and ranchos continued?

9. Due to the current lack of understanding about the land, what environmental problems are we faced with today?

10. What can we learn from the Native American view and use of the land?

Figure Z–
Continued

11. Draw your own version of our city.